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HEALTH: Defibrillator available at Fonthill Plaza

### **Life-saving addition for plaza** MELISSA MANGELSEN

#### Pelham News Staff If an automated external

defibrillator (AED) is used within the first five to 15 minutes of cardiac arrest, the likelihood of survival is high. Businesses at the Fonthill Plaza have pitched in to boost the survival rate of shoppers who suffer cardiac arrest by

Krysta Pratt, of Studio Twenty Inc., said the idea for the plaza's businesses to partner on the purchase of an AED came from Kwik Fit owner Frank Adamson.

"He's a paramedic and does AED and CPR training," Pratt sald. "He approached us to get a defibrillator for the plaza and we thought it was a great idea."

On Friday, Adamson held a three-hour CPR and AED training session at Studio Twenty to teach shop owners and their employees how to react in case of emergency.



See PLAZA on Page 2

Diane Watters of DJ Weight Management and Krysta Pratt of Studio Twenty Inc., with the newly purchased AED.



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# **UPFRONT**

GROUNDHOG DAY

# Flossie set to predict end of winter

#### PethamNews Staff

For 21 years Flossie the groundhog has been emerging from his burrow in Fenwick to decide winter's fate.

If he sees his shadow people in Niagara should prepare for six-more weeks of winter and if he doesn't see his shadow spring is said to come early.

Though Groundhog Day is on Feb. 2. Fenwick will host the event on Feb. 3, to allow for students to be able to come from Pelham school's to participate in the day.

It's more about getting the children and community together for a fun event. rather than the date itself. We have about 200 students from junior kindergarten to Grade 4 that come out and really enjoy this. They cheer and shout trying to rouse Flossie from her winter slumber," said Lion Rob Henson, coordinator.

Fenwick Flossie greeted children at Centennial Park after her early weather prediction last year.

When Flossie finally wakes and creeps out of her den to predict the end of winter by check for her shadow the kids cheer with excitement, said Henson. Groundbog Day in Fenwick will begin at 10:30 a.m.,

Henson said they don't keep track of Flossie's track record, but a Canadian study for 13 cities over the past 40 years found that the weather patterns predicted on Groundhog Day were only 37% accurate over that time period.

The morning will round off with colouring contest winners, hot chocolate and cookies.

melissa.mangelsen@sunmedia.ca Twitter: @trihunemelissa



ΡΙ Δ7Δ

# **Lifesaving AED now at Fonthill Plaza**

"The AED is very simple to use and very straight forward, but it gives people confidence when they've had the proper training in it. There is also certification given at the end of the training," said Pratt.

The AED isn't as rare around Niagara as it once a good idea to have them.

was. Many places, such as sporting venues and busy public areas, have invested in the \$2,500 lifesaving

device "They are becoming more widespread and I hope one day to see everyone involved," Pratt said, "It's not the law to have them, but it's

"We've never had an emergency here where we would need to use an AED. But, if we ever did, it is a good thing to have and know how to use. It's one of those things you purchase and hope you will never need to use it." Where the AED will be installed has yet to be deter-

mined. It's expected to be

located centrally in the plaza, possibly within a business that has the latest hours. The AED must be easily accessible as there is a small window of opportunity for it

to be used successfully after cardiac arrest According to the Heart and Stroke Foundation,

40,000 cardiac arrests happen each year in Canada about one every 12 minutes. Without rapid treatment, most of these cardiac arrests

will result in death. The AED identifies cardiac rhythms and delivers a shock to correct the abnormal electrical activity in the heart. It will only shock after it detects if the heart is in a rhythm that can only be corrected by defibrillation. If a shockable rhythm is not detected, no shock can be given and the provider will be instructed to perform CPR until EMS arrives.

melissa.mangelsen@sunmedia.ca Twitter: @tribunemelissa















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■ EDUCATION: Lego teaching important lessons to students



Fonthill Fury placed 27th at the FIRST LEGO League provincial robotics championships held



The Lego Da Vinci's took home fourth place at the FIRST LEGO League provincial robotics

### Di Vinci's finish fourth

#### MELISSA MANGELSEN Pelham News Staff

Just imagine That is exactly what students in Pelham did last weekend as they

competed at the FIRST LEGO League provincial robotics championships. Teams Fonthill Fury and Lego Da Vinci took on about 400 other

students for the competition that encourages students to apply math and science concepts to research, design, build and program autonomous robots using Lego Mindstorms software. Pelham's Lego Da Vinci team finished in fourth, while the Fon-

thill Fury finished 27th in the championships. The program is for students age nine to 16, from Canada, U.S. and

\*Despite the young age of the participants, the competition is designed to have teams delve into real-world scientific issues, with this year's challenge focusing on the theme Nature's Fury.

Competitors discovered and

explored innovative solutions to help people prepare, stay safe, or rebuild.

Robotic missions include such considerations as emergency vebicles, evacuations cargo planes, fallen obstacles and reconstruction," said the Lego League's website.

Students were judged in robot design (how well a team demonstrates its understanding of robot design through building, programming, strategy and performance), core values (how well a team demonstrates the integration of FIRST LEGO League core values in all aspects of the FIRST LEGO League experience), project (how well a team demonstrates its solution

for a real-world problem and the research behind its solution). The Lego Da Vinci's are in their second year with the FLL. They are a group of students with an initiative to promote disaster preparedness and help neighbourhoods become better prepared

Nature's Fury took students

on an examination of their community to come up with the best solution should a natural disaster strike Pelham

"Most people are not prepared for natural disasters. They don't know their neighbours well and don't have an effective emergency kit." said Debbie Hoffele, Lego Da Vinci coach, during a presentation made to council in December. "Our solution is an organization called Preparing and Assist-ing Neighbours (PAN). The goal is to connect people at block parties and equip them with information, window decals and fridge magnets. PAN is supported by a mobile responsive website where people will be able to register," PAN is a two-tiered plan work-

ing with local governments to improve awareness and to create block-to-block neighbourhood networks.

PAN's website is www.pan-canada com

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#### SUN MEDIA

#### Niagara region referendum questions

Niagara Regional Councillor

Readers may have seen reports about possible referendum questions on the next municipal ballot in October. The discussion started out with a laundry list of possible questions but ended up with only two being forwarded. One dealt with the issue of amalgamation into a single City of Niagara and the other dealt with regional transit. Debate still lingers on these two questions but other questions emerge about the entire process

The first question to deal with is the issue of ballot ownership. The local towns, townships and cities own the municipal ballot; not the Region of Niagara. The resultant question then is: what is the cost of placing a referendum question on a ballot? Subsequently, who then pays that cost? Is it the local taxpayers in each of the 12 municipalities or the regional taxpavers equally at large? These remain questions that need to be answered before further consideration is given to referendum ballots. When the Regional Clerk researched the issue it was discovered that referendum questions could only be ones over which the municipality had a mandate. Therefore the question of amalgamation was not permissible as no single municipality has the right to close down a neighbouring municipality. However, a vote was taken on a request to the Minis ter of Municipal Affairs and Housing to have the Minister place the amalgamation question on the 12 municipal ballots. While it was not reported in the media, I had prepared a motion to defer consideration of these referendum questions until we received a staff report concerning the rules related to preparing referendum questions and the cost recovery related to the ballot and the counting and reporting of results. In addition I requested a cost benefit of a referendum compared to other survey methods. Unfortunately the vote was called before this motion but the request is still before staff. I believe that it is important to engage taxpayers in a responsible fashion on issues of importance to the region at minimal cost. We now find out that we must advertise and hold a public meeting to determine the precise wording of a referendum question. We also have learned that the referendum vote will only have validity if 50% or more of voters vote at the October 27 municipal election.

tion about amalgamation was defeated. Does anyone think that a Minister would advocate for amalgamation after the backlash to that direction under a former government? Those amalgamations were based on the potential cost-savings and we now realize that was not the case. No matter how well worded, referendum ques tions are too complicated for a simple referendum question. There are many alternatives to engage the public and the forming of perspectives on large issues. The triple majority vote is the ultimate way to achieve grand changes to governance in Niagara especially if they are accompanied by public meetings at both the regional and local level. That is the vote must be supported by a majority of Regional Councillors. It then must receive approval from at least 6 of the 12 local municipalities and the total population of those 6 or more municipalities must exceed 50% of Niagara's total population.

The vote to request the Minister to force a referendum ques-

Brian Baty is a Niagara Regional Councillor for the Town of Pelham . brian.baty@ niagararegion.ca

# **Pelham**NEWS Christian unity

#### REV. THOMAS P. ARTH First Evangelical Lutheran Church

Last week was the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. It's something that began 106 years ago in 1908. It was initially established by the Roman Catholic church and Protestant church leaders jumped on the bandwagon in the mid-1920s. How's that for unity? In 1941 the Protestants moved the date to coincide with the Roman Catholic observance. In 1968 the World Council of Churches, representing most of the world's Orthodox and Protestant Christians and the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity, representing the world's Roman Catholics, started preparing materials each year on a common theme.

For many years the Port Colborne/ Wainfleet Clergy Fellowship, with which I have recently become involved again, has led services on Monday to Friday during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, This year. unfortunately, those services didn't happen. This is not a sign that there is dis-unity among the Christians of Port Colborne and Wainfleet. While not every church in town has always been involved, a good number of the clergy and members of many of our churches do come and give witness to the unity we have in Christ

But just what is Christian unity? It's fairly evident when you consider Port Colborne as an example. I think there are maybe close to 20 Christian churches in our city representing ten or more denominations, or no denomination at all. Very often we operate

in our own silos, have little or nothing to do with each other, seeming to be closed in on ourselves

Some of our differences are theological but things that the average person in the pew wouldn't understand without first getting some detailed explanations. Some of our differences are in our styles and traditions of how we worship. Some of our differences were originally ethnic but many of those distinctions have disappeared over

But where do we find our unity? Well. sometimes when people share some of their history with me they tell me how they've changed denominations or traditions during their lives. It may have been because they married someone from another church so they switched. It may have been because they moved and them was no church from their former denomination so they just found another church. It may have been because they didn't see eye to eye with some person, maybe the pastor, at one church so they left and found another. There are probably many more reasons why people might change churches. But so many people finish their story by saying, "But we all worship the same God. There is unity, even in our diversity. The

Bible says, "There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith one baptism, one God and Father of all. who is above all and through all and in all\* (Ephesians 4:4-6). While there are many different things that might divide us, or at

least distinguish us from one another, we are united in the body of Christ. The Bible also says. "For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free-and we were all made to drink of one Spirit" (1 Corinthians 12:12-13).

Now I'll admit that I have not always found the unity that we all share in Christ. For a number of years I didn't attend our local Clergy Fellowship, Part of the reason was a bit of laziness. I didn't want to add another thing to my monthly calendar and agenda of things to do and places to be. But the bigger reason was that I found my colleagues from different churches to be too different. I preferred to be with pastors who thought like me, talked like me, worshiped like me. But I was isolating myself and I believe I was the worse for it.

Last year I made the decision and commitment to return to the fellowship with the clerry in Port Colborne and Wainfleet. I haven't missed a meeting yet. Scheduling conflicts are bound to arise at some time, but if I'm here and don't have anything else on my calendar I will attend. I've found that what unites us, what we share, our faith in Jesus Christ, is way more important than any of the things that divide us. I thank God for my sisters and brothers in Christ in whatever church they attend. May we all look to what unites us rather then making distinctions. One Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all

#### Magic and puppet shows coming to library

FRAN CHES Pelham Public Library

n my last column I described adult programs that were slated for the next few weeks, plus ongoing activities for children, but I didn't mention the events planned for March Break, Although it is quite a long way off, registration has opened. To avoid youthful disappointment, it is a good idea to sign up as soon as possible in person, please. Payment is required at the time of registration, ALL of the events take place at the Fonthill branch.

In order of presentation: Magician in the Making: Learn five tricks and receive a pack of cards so you can fool your family. March 10 at 1 p.m. \$4 Mad Scientist: Learn some

entertaining science experiments to try. March 11, 11 9 m \$4

Decor Diva: How to make your bedroom uniquely yours. March 11 at 2 p.m. \$4 Flannel Shirt Frenzy: How to make four different things from an old flannel shirt you bring from home. March 12, 10:30 a.m. \$4 Uncle Waldo's Wacky Tacky Puppet Show: presented by Image Puppet Productions Inc. in the

Festival Room, March 12 at 1 p.m. \$4 Pajama Parade Storytime: For our younger friends, who may attend in their jammies. and their older companions. who will probably prefer to be more formally clad, March

13, 10 a.m. \$4 Cardboard Creations: Unlimited imagination applied to a cardboard box you bring with you, March

13, 1 p.m. \$4 Terrific Trendy Ties: Make several crafts using one of your dad or grandad's old ties or use one of ours, March 14.1 n.m. \$4

Even if the weather continues to be as miserable as it is at present, this slate of March Break activities should provide some good noisy fun for all

For our adult patrons.

who don't get a holiday in the middle of March, here are some events just for you. If Windows 8.1 is giving you fits, there is a class on Feb. 3 (6 to 8 p.m. \$10) that will reveal its secrets. Limited enrollment, Please bring your own laptop with Windows 8.1 already installed as our laptops do not have that version of Windows, Pre-registration and payment in advance is

A Meditation Workshop is taking place Feb. 4, from 6 to 8 p.m. \$3, and the Seniors' Valentine Tea is from 2 to 3 p.m. on Feb. 5. The tea is free, but please pre-register. Do you feel your life lacks

required

focus? Gain clarity by taking The Passion Test Workshop Feb. 8, from 1 to 3:30 p.m. Please register ahead in person. \$50

Finally, for genealogy buffs, Steve Fulton from the Niagara Chapter of the Ontario Genealogical Society will be here on Feb. 11 at 6:30 p.m. to go into the intricacies of tracing your family tree

Family Day is Feb.17, this year so both library branches will be closed that day. On Feb. 19 the opening of the Fontbill Branch will be delayed until 11 a.m. to allow for a staff meeting, but Maple Acre in Fenwick will open at 10 a m as usual That's all this time, folks See you at the Library!

#### CORRECTION

In the Jan. 23 Pelham News article Signalized crosswalks coming to Pelham, The PelhamNews incorrectly stated that an evaluation found residents in the area of Pancake Lane were generally satisfied with vehicle speed and the amount of traffic. In fact, the evaluation for Pancake Lane found that the area generally satisfied the speed criteria and can proceed to the next step, which is to form a committee to look at traffic issues. The Pelham News apologizes for any confusion this may have caused.

■ MUNICIPAL PLANNING: Designation sought in Pelham

# Ridgeville as a hamlet — to be or not to be?

#### MELISSA MANGELSEN PelhamNews Staff

If Stan Rutyna has his way, his hometown will soon become the Hamlet of Ridgeville

Ridgeville.

Dennis Savriga, a Niagara
Falls planning developer,
was at Pelham town council
Monday night on behalf of
Rutyna, who is hoping that
councillors will consider
giving the hamlet designation to Ridgeville, a small
area located between Fonthill and Fenvick.

Rutyna said his family purchased farmland in Ridgeville in the 1960s, but was unable to make a viable living off of the land. The family house now sits vacant. Sauries helleves the des-

ily house now sits vacant.
Savriga believes the designation for a hamlet will permit established uses within this designation to be appropriately recognized and zoned accordingly.

This will then permit

"This will then permit appropriate zoning standards to be established and administered under the building code without the intervention of another level of government. Attempting to provide for the zoning of existing residential and commercial uses in a yet undetermined agricultural and tender fruit and grape zone will be difficult and does not make sense," said Savriga.

Pelham's newly adopted official plan, though not yet approved, designates the areas of Ridgeville and Canboro as specialty agricultural. The designation recognizes crops as the primary commercial use.

"The plan restricts nonagricultural uses which constrain or negatively impact upon the specialty

BBB

crop land. The adopted plan doesn't recognize the rural commercial or village residential land uses. Council may wish to amend this oversight in light of exist-

ing and newly established uses, said Savriga. The Greenbelt Plan identifies the Ridgeville and Canboro area as tender fruit and grape land. The Greenbelt Plan has accommodated North Pelham and Fenwick as a village or hamlet within the land des-

ignation.
"One would anticipate
Ridgeville to be entitled to

Celebrating over 20,000 procedures

designated," Savriga sald.
The report has gone to
town staff and will come
back to council at a later
date.
melissa.mangeben@sunmedia.ca

the same designation had

the town accommodated

it in its new official plan."

said Savriga, adding once

the hamlet designation is

established, the areas can't

expand except at the time

hamlet and should be

defined and appropriately

"Ridgeville is not a new

of official plan updates.

Fenwick stunter sentenced

JUSTICE

A Pelham man arrested for stunting in Fenwick in 2012 was sentenced in a Welland courtroom Wednesday and will serve no further time in

Thomas Cody Duggan was convicted in November of dangerous operation of a motor vehicle and breach of probation.

On Wednesday, Judge Tory Colvin sentenced Duggan to 15 days, time already served, for the dangerous operation charge and a concurrent five days, time aiready served, for breach

of probation.

On Aug. 29, 2012, residents saw a man driving a dirt bike on Canboro Rd., Cream St. and Welland Rd. at speeds greater than 100 km/h. Witnesses observed the man doing wheelles and spinning his tires, and kicking up dirt and rocks at observers.

Two weeks later, Duggan was arrested and charged.

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#### Reviewing permissive grants

At the request of Coun. Richard Rybiak, permissive grant evaluation results and commendations will be on hold until Feb. 3, when more information can be obtained Rybiak said this would allow the time needed for council to be comfortable with approving or denying permissive grants. We do want to know what the criteria is and how the money is

granted," he said. Pelham Cares is asking for \$17,600, Woman's Place \$4,000, ited Way South Niagara \$2,550, Child Advocacy Centre \$1,500 for a total of \$25,650 in permissive grants. Council also being asked to waive the fee in

2014 for the use of the arena for the purpose of holding an art festival to be delivered by the



We do want to know what the criteria is and how the money is granted."

Coun. Richard Rybiak

Small fire at cell tower

The Pelham Fire Department

responded to two calls at 1574 Lookout St. in Fonthill, Friday. Pelham fire responded to the initial call of a structure fire at the base of a cell tower owned by Crown Castle. They released the scene after they thought it was extinguished. Pelham fire was called back at 2:43 p.m. after the

fire flared up again At the base of the tower was two small garden-type sheds that housed equipment such as servers. The shed was rented out to customers. Crown Castle who has 23 district offices across the country said any interruptions to service are minimal and will be repaired quickly. Crown Castle had employees at the scene to assess any damages.

Tickets on sale for

#### Gala for Good

Tickets are on sale for Pelham Cares Gala for Good, March at Lookout Point Country Club at 209 Tice Rd. in Fonthill Cocktail reception begins at 6 p.m. dinner at 7 p.m. and a dance to follow. Tickets are \$125 per person and include a meal. silent auction, door prizes, live music and dancing. Home for Good is the capital campaign for Pelham Cares Inc. to fund a permanent home and longterm sustainability. To reserve/ purchase tickets contact Tracy Holmwood at 905-688-9224 or tholmwood@miller-restoration. com. Or by calling Pelham Cares at 905-892-5300 or info@ pelhamcares.org.



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₹ RECREATION PROGRAMS & CLASSES

Zumba Fitness @ Pelham Arena Tuesday Feb 4

7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Zumba Gold @ Pelham Arena Tuesday Feb 4 9:30 am - 10:30 am 9:30 am - 10:30 am

Drop in and try any session for \$6 or purchase your 10 + 2 bonus passes for \$60. For more information on any of the Zumba classes, please contact (905) 892-2607 ext. 329

Walking Club - Everyone Is welcome! - Feb 4 and Feb 6

Interested in walking in Pelham? Interested in joining a Walking Club? Then join us! Tuesdays at Pelham Arena from 9-10 am and Thursdays at Fonthill Bandshell from 9-10:30 am. For more information, please contact (905) 892-2607 ext. 329.

Thursday Feb 6

Arena Programs						
Public Skating	Adult Public Skating	Adult/Preschool	Men's Shinny Hockey	Women's Shinny Hockey	Women's Learn to Play Hockey	
Sunday Feb 2 1:00-2:20 pm Tuesday Feb 4 7:30-8:30 pm Friday Feb 7 8:00 – 9:30 pm	Thursday Feb 6 1:00 – 2:00 pm	Tuesday Feb 4 1:00 – 2:00 pm Friday Feb 7 10:00 – 11 am	Tuesday Feb 4 8:00 – 9:00 am Friday Feb 7 9:00 – 10:00 am	Monday Feb 3 10:00 – 11:00 am Thursday Feb 6 10:30 – 11:30 am	Thursday Feb 6 9:30 – 10:30 am	

"Get Active for Life" Join us at a park near you! Participation is at no charge, but we go require a registration form be submitted.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
10:00 – 11:00 am	Paace Park (Nordic Walking) (Poles available for use.)	Woodstream Park (Walking)	Peaca Park (Walking)	Woodstraam Park (Walking)	Cherry Ridga Park (Walking)
6:00 – 7:00 pm	Cherry Ridge Park (Walking)	Peace Park (Walking)	Pelham Arena (Walking)	Woodstream Park (Walking)	

For more information, please visit pelham.ca or contact icook@pelham.ca or call 905-892-2607 ext. 329.

#### ## COMMUNITY EVENTS & NEWS

Farmers' Market Vendor Applications - The Town of Pelham is currently accepting vendor applications for our 2014 Farmers' Market, which will run each Thursday starting May 1st and ending October 30th, Vendor stalls are \$30.00/week or \$200.00/season. Application packages are available on www.pelham.ca and at Pelham Town Hall.

Intro. to Windows 8.1 - Mon., Feb. 3 from 6-8, Cost is \$10.00, Pelham Public Library.

The Passion Test® Workshop - Are You Ready for More Joy and Fulfillment in Your Life? Local resident Laura Lane, Certified Passion Test Facilitator leads this powerful workshop, Sat., Feb. 8 from 1-3:30 p.m. Cost is \$50. Pelham Public Library.

Pelham Tax Due Dates - Mark your calendars for the first and second tax installments which are due February 28th and April 30th, respectively.

TOWN OF PELHAM MARCH BREAK CAMP



Pelham Camp

Get ready for another exciting year at Pelham's March Break Campl

Monday, March 10 to Friday, March 14, 2014

at the Pelham Arena, 2220 Halst Street, Fonthill

Open to children ages 4-12!

Registration for Petham residents has begun!

Non-residents may register as of February 3, 2014.

Full details and registration forms available at www.pelham.ca and at Town Hall.

# **Gunning to be the best**

#### MARYANNE FIRTH **OMI Agency Niagara**

Staring into the darkness. with only the faint glow of blue and red lights flickering behind him, the police officer raises his

Aware there is a deadly threat hiding in the shadows, he drops low to the ground, steadles his shotgun and waits.

When the target is identified. he does not besitate. The blast of the gun fills the air

with a heavy boom His shot is precise. The suspect is down

The scenario is complete. Though this time it was an exercise, held in the primary firing range of the Niagara Regional Police training unit, it was an encounter any frontline officer could face out in the real world

any day on the job. The real-life scenarios are posed to the NRP's 716 officers during various training exercises

held at the Welland-based unit throughout the year. In the unit's 270-degree firing range, officers can shoot from behind cover of mock police cruisers and from concealment of other barriers, and practise accurately hitting moving targets

from different distances. The room is rigged to allow instructors control over lighting and other environmental elements that may impact a situa-

Lighting can be brought down and supplemented with cruiser roof lights to simulate conditions on the street as if the vehicle lights were all an officer had in an emergency, said Sgt. Gordon Nash, who heads the train-

ingunit.
"We will do drills out there where it's dark and they're using

their flashlight, so that they can positively identify what their target is," Nash said.

"They're responsible for every round they fire." "It's best to basically put the

officers under a bit of stress." Nash said By putting them under stress in a training environment they get stress inoculated so when

something happens on the street they automatically know how to react," he said. To prevent officers from encountering an incident on the

street for the first time, instructors work to reproduce as many different types of situations and scenarios as possible in the training environment, Nash

They're responsible for every round they fire.

It's best to basically out the officers under a hit of stress."

Sgt. Gordon Nash

The unit is also home to a 360-degree close quarter battle, where live-action scenarios are carried out between officers and instructors, the latter of whom take on the role of the 'bad guy. Here, they practise use of force

and test their judgment in determining the level of action and weapon that may be required, if any, in different situations.

Firearms are used with "safe shots," known as blanks, and

ilar to paintballs. Nash said. Officers also have access to intermediate weapons including batons and pepper spray, and for those who are qualified, conducted energy weapons, com-

monly known as Tasers. "You always have to evaluate and then re-evaluate the situa-

tion," Nash said. "You're constantly talking to the subject and trying to deescalate the situation, but it's

dynamic, it's always chang-Tactical communications, as well as defensive tactics, is a large part of police training.

An officer has to escalate or de-escalate based on the subject," Nash said. If the subject has a gun, it warrants the officer pulling out a pistol. But if the subject then throws his gun away and comes at the officer with fists raised, the officer

should de-escalate to an intermediate weapon. After each scenario is carried out a discussion is had about why the decisions were made the way they were and whether anything should have been done

Officers undergo annual requalification at the training unit for firearms and use of force. Frontline supervisors and their designates must also undergo annual requalification for CEWs

Not all officers are able to carry Tasers, though that may soon change. A plan to purchase stun guns for frontline NRP officers is being

presented to the police services board in the near future. Nash believes the change would be a positive one for the force. CEWs, he said, are proven subject because they can be deployed from a distance and cause a lower rate of injury than other intermediate weap-

If approved, it will mean CEW training for an additional 360 officers at the unit, he said.

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### Two arrests in gift card scam

#### QMI Agency Niagara

Two Welland women, including one previously sought by police in connection with a cost scam, have been arrested after allegedly running a gift card scam in Niagara Falls.

dents, on Dec. 16 and Dec. 17, two people were bilked of hundreds of dollars after responding to online advertisements on the classified website Kijiji. The ads promoted Home Depot gift cards — worth \$1,000 and \$2,000 - being sold for half

said she would call Home Depot to verify the value of the cards. She would dial a number on speaker phone and the per-During two different incison on the other end confirmed the cards were legitimate. What the victims didn't realize, police say, is that the voice on the other end belonged to

another woman pretending to be a Home Depot employee. The victims paid cash for the cards, \$500 and \$1,000 respectively, only to later learn the

On both occasions, the vic-

a woman - in a parking lot

tims agreed to meet the seller

in Niagara Falls to purchase the cards. Upon arrival, the woman

cards were blank and had been stolen from Home Depot, said NRP spokesman Const. Derek

"It's not an uncommon scam," said Det, Set, Paul Spiridi, head of the NRP's fraud unit. "We see it all the time." Spiridi encouraged people looking to purchase gift cards online to meet the seller at the

store to verify the value. "It's buyer heware," he said, particularly when using online lassified sites.

"Most have fraud warnings and tell you how to protect

On Dec. 23, police arrested

Jodi Donovan, 33, of Welland. in relation to the gift card incidents. The co-accused in the case, 25-year-old Alexandra Holditch, of Welland, was armeted Dec 24

Holditch and Donovan are each charged with two counts of fraud under \$5,000 and two counts of possession of property obtained by crime.

Holditch also faces additional charges stemming from an alleged scam run several times between Nov. 3 and Nov. 10 at a number of large department stores in Welland, Niagara Falls and St. Catharines.

Police say the scam involved



ROYAL LEPAGE g Throughout Niagara

using coats as a distraction to steal the purses of shoppers. Holditch was arrested in connection with that on Nov. 21. She posted bail Dec. 11 - five days prior to the alleged first gift

card incident. The additional charges Holditch faces include one count of theft under \$5,000, one count of

One of the most common

ways for cyber criminals to steal

fraud under \$5,000, one count trafficking property obtained by crime and one count of possession of property obtained by crime Donovan is next scheduled

to appear in St. Catharines court on Jan. 29 and Holditch on Feb 12, both for charges to be spoken to outside of Canada, which raises

further issues when it comes

to obtaining information. We

their value. CRIME

#### Is it time to change your security password?

#### BILL SAWCHUK QMI Agency Niagara

They've been called the keys to your kingdom. Passwords are used for everything from logging on to your computer to accessing websites. financial data and your e-mail - and too many of us are still using 123456, birthdays and

It's information that can easily be mined by cyber crimi-

"I'm a little more tech savvy. so it is hard for me to believe people are still using those passwords, but I guess it hapens a lot," said Det. Const. Dave Mander of the Niagara Regional Police Fraud unit.

"People aren't getting the message, unfortunately." Strong passwords are essential to protect yourself online.

Mander recommends making passwords a minimum of 12 characters in length. The longer the better, be said. "Random numbers and letters are difficult to remember and fairly easy to hack," he

separate sets of passwords for

said. "It can take about six minutes to hack a six or seven-digit password.

"Using a phrase or string of random words, that's where you see really strong passwords. If they get to be 12 to 14 characters, it is very difficult to hack. "If it was 20 characters, it

would take 550 years to guess the password at 1,000 guesses a second With six or seven characters, it would take just a few It is also a good idea to have

social media sites and financial computer sites, he said. Social media sites are often used as a go-between to get further personal information

"If they get access to your Facebook or social media site. they can find out where you work, where you live, who your friends are." Mander said. "They can try to obtain further information in regard to your personal identity. Once they hack into your system, they can try

The best way to protect yourself is to not get hacked in the first place - and that includes anti-virus protection for your

your password is to infect your deal with companies that aren't obligated to provide us with any computer with malware that captures everything you type information into the computer. The best place to start is "It can be very difficult to with a strong password."

trace," Mander said. "If a cyber criminal knows what he or she bill sawchuk@sunmedia.ca is doing, they can hide their @bill standard tracks. A lot of times, it leads

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Start the Conversation Today.

#### May not have been Canada's favourite crossing guard ... but she's Pelham's

Violet Steingart was recognized by town council on Monday for her nomination for Canadian Crossing Guard of the Year. She is a welcomed face at the corner of A.K. Wigg and was nominated by parents, teachers and students. Pelham Mayor Dave Augustyn said this is more than "a job" it's providing a valuable service for the

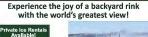


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AGRICULTURE

# Farmers have their say on greenbelt plan

#### ROB HOULE OMI Agency Niagara

Niagara Region's agricultural policy and action committee was given an overview Friday morning of a report into issues faced by Ontario greenbelt farm-

Kathy Macpherson, vice-president of research and policy with the Friends of the Greenhelt Foundation, highlighted the results of a report by Wayne Caldwell, a professor of rural planning and development at Guelph University.

Caldwell came to his conclusions after a series of focus groups and one-on-one interviews with farmers, a survey and one-on-one interviews with government planners and a workshop with planners and municipal economic development staff.

"We asked Wayne Caldwell to take a tool oat what were agricultural Issuer agricultural Issuer agricultural Issuer agricultural Issuer agricultural Issuer asked in the general Issuer asked in the plan, we would be plan and was affecting farmer operations and affecting, farmer operations and affecting farmer operations and affecting farmer operations and affecting farmer with the order one of the plan issuer asked in the plan is the pla

the greenbert was created in 2005 by the provincial Liberal government with the goal of preventing urban sprawl onto farmland and environmentally sensitive areas.

The Friends of the Greenbelt is a notfor-profit organization whose mandate is to "help keep farmers successful, strengthen local economies, and protect and grow natural features."

and grow natural features."

Caldwell said there were 10 keys issues of concern to farmers.

In a follow-up e-mail, Macpherson explained the main issues identified by farmers across the Greenbelt "are not are across the Greenbelt "are not are commonly experienced by farmers elsewhere in the province, or related to the near urban location of the farms, or other particular features of agriculture than average farm parcel size). His was somewhat of a surprise, but perhaps shouldn't have been given the range foldered, provincial and municipal polifications of the provincial and municipal formating and farmland.

"The multiplicity and layers of regulations I mentioned is perhaps not news, but the inconsistencies in interpreting provincial policies and regulations

across and within municipalities and conservation authorities was striking to us. As was the difficulties there can be for farmers for fruit manner of the farmers of for that manner municipalities of the conservation of the co

Caldwell's conclusion was that many of the issues highlighted by farmers and planners within the greenbelt are issues also provincial issues.

"Long-term agricultural sustainability is an issue across the province," he

Caldwell said a forthcoming revised greenbelt plan needs to do a better job expressing its vision for agriculture. If the greenbelt plan "truth has a vision of protecting prime agricultural land for agriculture, the language and resulting interpretation requires a stronger emphasis on agriculture."

Committee member Len Troup, a tem-

der-fruit grower from Jordan who was "green-beited," told Macpherson he was pleased her foundation was undertaking a review of the greenbelt plan. "This was certainly long overdue,"

Troup said. "The resentment (to the plan) is still there, because this started out as a Toronto-driven exercise, a political exercise that worked, by the way. I mean, how can you say 'green' and not win. Unfortunately, it was done on the backs of private landowners without really any consideration' for the farmer.

"You're starting to get there."
Troup said "real" farmers need to be consulted before legislation is passed.
"There are well-intended people who have no idea of the consequences. And

they won't listen to us, because we have no vote — numerically, the farmers have no vote. We own all the land, but we don't have any say. You can tell I still have a chip on my shoulder." Committee member Gracia Janes

Committee member Gracia Janes called for government investment in farming. She said while there has been plenty of investment in wine and grapes, there has been none in farming.

> rob.houle@sunmedia.ca RobH\_Standard



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# houses into homes

#### ALISON LANGLEY OMI Agency Niggara

#### When Jennifer left hehind an abu-

sive marriage, she also left behind all her possessions. The woman, last name withheld, and her children sought refuge at Gil-

lian's Place, a women's shelter in St. Catharines, but she knew it was only a temporary fix. Gillian's Place referred her to Nia-

gara Furniture Bank, a registered charity that provides gently used furniture and other home necessities to those in "We help to make a house a home,"

said Alyshia Cormier, the agency's scheduling co-ordinator. "We help furnish basic household needs for families coming out of homelessness, or shelters or those

starting over from a flood or fire. We'll provide what you need to start fresh. Through the furniture bank, Jennifer was able to furnish her new resi-

"My kids received beds," she said. "That was the biggest thing for me." Jennifer's story is not unique.

Last year alone, the Niagara Furniture Bank helped more than 530 families from Fort Erle to Beamsville. Compare that to 2009 when the agency served 43 families and individ-

As requests for assistance continue to increase, the agency's stock is get-

To help fill the shelves, the agency's Niagara Falls office at Niagara Square

is hosting a "Neighbourhood Drop Off Days" campaign. From Jan. 25 to 31, residents are invited to drop of small household

items such as kitchenware, blankets, towels and linens and small appli-"It's the little things that matter,"

Cormier said. Everyone who brings in a donation

is eligible to win a Niagara Square gift certificate. Donations of large items are stored at a warehouse in Welland.

"We don't put anything in the landfill," said Richard Maingot, operations director. "We turn it all around. It may not be great to you any more, but someone else can benefit from it. In 2012, the agency diverted 150

metric tonnes from landfills. Niagara Furniture Bank will also come to your door to pick up items for a small fee to cover transportation

Charitable receipts are issued for the current fair market value of the

Anyone interested in donating can call 905-356-4673 or visit www.nlagarafurniturehank.com.

> alison.langley@sunmedia.ca Twitter Rofalislandey

■ AGRICULTURE: Growers report some damage after temps dropped to -24°C

#### Cold snap was too much to endure

for Niagara's tender fruit crop

#### DON FRASER **OMI Agency Niagara**

Some of Niagara's tender fruit crop was damaged in the deep-freeze that gripped the area two weeks ago. Temperatures as low as -24°C earlier this month affected sensitive grape vines

and some tender fruit trees "The injury, it's there, but the magnitude on the final crop has yet to be determined," said grape and tender fruit consultant Kevin Ker.

He said it also seems fruit in southwestern Ontario has weathered more coldweather injury than in this region. Winter is far from over, "so everyone's pretty reluctant ... to say there's 'this

much' crop lost," he said. He said many grape growers are carrving out "protective pruning practices" and leaving more wood on the plants than normal to offset potential fruit-bud

injury later Tender fruit tree growers will generally wait until orchard buds break out before pruning starts. That's when the adjustments needed due to tree injury become clearer. The consultant adds west St. Catharines may have had more vines and tree-fruit damage than Niagara-on-the-Lake, but

vinevards in that town also vary in how they have been affected. Definitely there's been damage, we know that," said Debbie Zimmerman. CEO of the Grape Growers of Ontario. "The extent has yet to be determined -

we're doing hud counts. She said vineyard damage is being assessed across all grape-growing regions, including Prince Edward County, Pelee Island and southwest Ontario.

"When we start seeing some growth (this spring) and start pushing the buds, that's when we might actually see trunk damage," Zimmerman said.

> don.fraser@surmedia.ca Twitter Ødno standard

#### ■ NIAGARA CLOSEUP: Welland man revived after more than an hour without vital signs

# "They never gave up" Althus British 1 didn't think much about Same sald he wouldn't let Shane's responder Carrie, Alt fluis, Shane's family was liked, they were carries, fall

#### QMI Agency Niagara

Shane Nelson was essentially dead. He wasn't breathing. He

had no pulse. He'd been that way for more than an hour

And the 21-year-old Welland man likely would still be dead if it wasn't for the relentless efforts of his co-workers, paramedics and emergency department medical staff, said his father Karl Nelson.

"They never stopped. They

never gave up," he said. "They saved Shane's life." It was the start of a threeweek nightmare for the famity, wondering if Shane would

ny, wondering in soame would ever come home.

Shane was born with Wolff-Parkinson-White syndrome, a congenital heart abnormality, but for the most part he's been relatively healthy throughout his life. He had experienced chest pain while working in Alberta last year, but he wasn't concerned. "I didn't think much about it. I just figured it was the food I was eating. I knew I needed a better diet," Shane said.

He said he had no prior warning that he would come as close to death as he did when he collapsed at about 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 21. Handlebar Hanks owner

Rick Christoff still has video footage taken that day with the restaurant's security cameras. Shane can clearly be seen working in the kitchen with his supervisor, head cook Bob Alkerton.

There's no sound on the monitor as Shane talks to Alkerton, but it's clear Shane isn't feeling well. He holds his chest at one point and his complexion looks pallid.

Alkerton said he told Shane to go home several times that day, but Shane didn't want to leave.

day, but sname didn't want to leave.

He said Shane blamed his queasiness on drinking too much during a night out with friends, and told him that having a hangover didn't excuse

him from his duties.

Shane said he wouldn't let his condition prevent him from doing his job. "I told Shane, 'I'm going for a break. When I come back. If

you feel worse just go home," Alkerton recalled. But Alkerton didn't have a chance to take a break. In the video, Alkerton puts

on his coat preparing to step outside, but then Shane leans against a sink in the corner. A moment later, he collapses. Alkerton rushes to help Shane hack to his feet, but he

collapses again.
Within seconds, waitress Lisa Lane walks into the
kitchen carrying a telephone
talking to a \$11 operator. She
can be seen relaying instructions to Alkerton who does
what he can to help his coworker. An ambulance arrives

seconds later.

"I have to give my staff credit. Everything worked perfectly," Christoff said. "They recognized the problem and they reacted instantly and

they stuck with it."
"They were excellent," said

Shane's stepmother Carrie, referring to the Handlebar Hanks staff. Still, Shane's condition

continued to deteriorate. His heart stopped heating just as the ambulance arrived. In the video, paramedics can be seen doing chest compressions and using a defi-

brillator trying desperately to revive him.

After several minutes of working on him in the kitchen with the assistance of Welland firefighters, the paramedics brought Shane to their ambulance to continue his treatment and then on to the Welland hospital emergency

department about five min-

utes away.

"If it wasn't for the hospital being so close and he
had to go the rest of the way
to Nisgara Falls, he wouldn't
have lived," Karl said, referring to Nisgara Health System
plans to eventually close the
Welland hospital and replace
it with a new one at the intersection of Montrose and Lyons
Creek Rds.

not aware of the seriousness of his condition. Karl said he received a phone call informing him that Shane passed out

at work.
"We got there and we found out he wasn't breathing and he was down for over an hour," he said.

Carrie said emergency department doctor shocked Shane's heart 12 times using a defibrillator, trying to get it heating again. At last, a physician told the family: "We finally just got his heartbeat back," Carrie recalled.

The local physicians stabi-

lized Shane and transferred him to Hamilton General Hospital in critical condition. Although Shane was no

longer in their care, Carrie said local hospital staff remained committed to their patient. A week after he was transferred to Hamilton, she said a nurse from Welland stopped by to see how he was progressing.

"They were thinking about

him still. That's what we really

ss said. "I can't believe the care that he got." But Shane wasn't out of the

woods yet.
Shane's doctors feared he would not wake up from the coma he'd slipped into.

"They thought he was going to be a vegetable," Karl said. He recalled talking to the doctors about whether to continue their efforts to keep him alive, or to stop all treatment.

"But when we turned around there were tears in Shane's eyes," Karl said. "The next day, he started waking

Carrie said it was as though Shane subconsciously heard the conversation, and "his tears let us know that he was in there."

Shane doesn't remember

waking up on Dec. 27, and he didn't remain conscious for long. The heart prohlem that led to his initial collapse was still prevalent.

See NVS on Page 16



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#### HEALTH

#### We will just keep going old patient she treated was

#### OMI Agency Niagara

Shane Nelson had no vital sions when he arrived at the Welland hospital emergency department on Dec. 21, but Dr. Shira Brown said her medwrite him off "Once the metabolism processes of the body systems

quickly nearing that point, the subtle signs of life he showed were enough to inspire medhacoma irreversible that's ical staff to continue working when we considered you to on him be dead," Brown said. Although the 21-year-

"If we think there's a good chance that we can get some-

going," she said. While Nelson's family said medical staff worked on him for more than an hour Brown could only confirm that Nelson was "a prolonged resusci-

However, she said she's worked on resuscitating other patients for more than two hours before successfully

restoring their vital signs. You keep going. A lot of things can happen. There are a lot of moving pieces during a cardionulmonary resuscita-

tion," she said. And despite their efforts. some patients cannot be

"If we're resuscitating a person for an hour and we do an ultrasound and their heart is not moving, that person is not coming back," she said.

Brown attributed Nelson's recovery to the team she works with in the emergency department, as well as the care he received prior to his

"The Welland team is a econd to none team, in my opinion," she said, "I'm really proud of the quality of care that we provide everyday, and I'm especially proud when we

get these things right."

Despite plans to eventually close the Welland hospital. replacing it with a new hospital in Niagara Falls, Brown said paramedics are well trained in providing cardiac life-support, keeping patients alive until they can make it to the hospital. And Brown said "it's hard to say" if the extra distance travelling to the pro posed Niagara Falls site would have an impact on the care of

> allan henner@sunmedia.ca Twitter: @abenner1

a patient like Nelson.



ALLAN BEHNER/OMI AGENCY NIAGARA Shane Nelson got a warm hug from the coworkers who helped save his life during a return trip to Handlebar Hanks. From left are Lisa Lane, Bob Alkerton, Nelson, and Lyndsey Richardson.

NVS

#### Man wasn't breathing, had no pulse

#### From Page 15 Surgeons in Hamilton oper-

ated on Shane on Jan. 2, correcting a problem with his heart valves and ultimately leading to his recovery. Shane only remembers waking up in Hamilton General Hospital on Jan. 6 — 16 days after he collapsed wondering why he was there. He remembered nothing about his ordeal, or the two

months prior to it. He finally returned to his Welland home last week, into the welcoming arms of friends and family members.

Despite his brush with death, Shane doesn't recall seeing pearly gates or a bright light at the end of a tunnel.

He did however return to consciousness with a vivid

image in his mind - one that might be a fitting afterlife for a

lover of macaroni and cheese. "It was like a cheese-noodle factory," he said, "I was with people I didn't know. I was going to a wedding the next day.

As strange as it might seem Shane was not joking "It was a really vivid dream," he said. "I laid back in a bed I was sitting on, and then I

woke up and I was in the hos-Now, with a new lease on life. Shane is making plans for the future. He said he hopes to enrol in a culinary arts school

and nursue a career as a chef. allan.benner@sunmedia.ca Twitter: @abenner1

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Pharmacists

TREATMENT OF "PINK EYE"

Pharmacists get many questions about how to treat "pink eye", also known as infectious

conjunctivitis. Pink eye can be bacterial or viral. Bacterial pink eye is common in children as they share toys, towels and come in close contact with each other at school and day care. In general however, most cases of pink eye are viral.

Depending on the type of pink eye treatment will differ. Bacterial conjunctivitis can be treated with antibiotic drops. There is no medicinal treatment for viral conjunctivitis.

In 45% to 73% of children with purulent 'pink eye" an ear infection is also present. If the eye has a purulent discharge, swelling and burning, this usually points to a bacterial infection. A mild watery discharge with Itching, associated with a concurrent upper respiratory infection signats viral conjunctivitis.

Both types of infections are generally self-limiting, (they will recolve on their own with our medication), Most types of bacterial conjunctivities will resolve within eight days. These infections can be treated to speed up moovery and prevent the spread of the infection. Cold and warm compresses can be used as well as a variety of topical antimicrobial agents. PDLYSPORIII drops are available over-the-counter and will cover most pathogens causing bacterial conjunctivities, Other prescribing over drops are also available.

Bacterial conjunctivitis is contagious as soon as symptoms are present and for as long as there is discharge from the eye, and continue for one to two days after starting the antibiotic.

With viral conjunctivitis compresses are about the only treatment available. If one eye is involved the other eye will become infected within days in about half the cases. Symptoms may worsen for a few days slowly improving over one to two weeks. This condition is controllarly shelm the anneascene of symptoms and as long as symptoms last.

If you wear non-disposable contact lenses clean them thoroughly and buy a new storage case. Disposable lenses should be thrown away. Glasses should be worn for the duration of the infection. If you use other drops for treating conditions like glaucoma you should replace these to avoid indextent constraintation.

To prevent the spread of infection practice good hygiene, washing hands and towels of the infected person.

If you are having trouble with your child's school you can ask the pharmacy for an explanatory note. This helps clear up any misconceptions they may have regarding the treatment that is necessary, and steps that need to be taken to prevent the spread of the condition.

Please contact your pharmacy or doctor if you have any further questions regarding this condition.

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#### 32 years of caring for community



Pelbam council and Pelbam frefighters were at council on Monday night to recognize the career of recently retired Pelbam frefighter Gery Nouscel. Novose was a member of the fire department 32 years. "That's quite a feat to serve for 32 years, the firehall is a better place because of him," said Fire Chie Bob Lymburner. Mayor Deak Augustyn thanked Novosel for his declication and care for the community." Council and the community rely on its firefighters. It's really a labour of love," said Augustyn.

#### **Dr. Kimberly Dobson**



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20

# **PELHAM DATEBOOK**

#### JANUARY 30

CLASSIC BOOK CHIR at Wainfleet Township Public Library 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. Join us for afternoon tea as we discuss the works of classic literature. This month's selection is Little Women, by Louisa May Alcott. To obtain a copy of the book, please

#### register as a book club member. **GNOCCHI DINNER** from the Casa Dante back door. 3 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. or until food lasts Dinners are \$10. Takeout only. Sauce, meatballs,

minestrone soup, and pasta fagioli are also available for takeout.

#### **FEBRUARY 2** ARCHEOLOGY LECTURE

at Brock University by Prof. Marie-Henriette Gates of Bilkent University on "Kinet Hoyuk (Turkey) the archeology of eastern

Mediterranean seaports. 3 n m in Room Academic South 215. Refreshments, no charge. Presented by Archaelogical Institute of America Public Lecture Series. Niagara Peninsula Society, For information, call 905-688-550 ext. 3575 Or 905-468-5649.

#### **FEBRUARY 3**

WINDOWS 8.1

Marc Mailhot, Pelham Public Library's Gadget Guy, will present information on WIN8.1 and will be available while you practice your newly-acquired skills. You must bring your own laptop or device with a WIN8.1 operating system Time 6 p.m. to 8 p.m: cost \$10 payable at time of registration.

#### **FEBRUARY 4**

MEDITATION At Pelham Public Library. Marcia leads you through

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#### **FEBRUARY 5** SENIORS VALENTINE TEA

at Pelham Public Library featuring entertainment. desserts and door prizes, 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. Free, but register in advance

When submitting listings by e-mail.

#### WELLAND EASTDALE meets in the school library at 7 p.m. All former students are

invited to attend **FERRUARY 7 COURT WHIST** 

at Ferwick United Church 1050 Church St., 7:30 p.m. Dessert, coffee and tea. Bring a friend and come out for a fun evening. Free will offering.

#### **FEBRUARY 8**

PASSION TEST WORKSHOP Are you ready for more joy and fulfilment in your life? The Passion Test® is a tool for gaining clarity by prioritizing what really matters most to us. This 2.5-hour workshop at Pelham Public Library is facilitated by Laura Lane. a certified Passion Test facilitator. Discover your top five passions which are clues to your personal destiny. Learn valuable tools so you can begin living your passions today. Cost \$50: time 1 p.m. to 3:30

#### p.m. FAMILY LITERACY EVENT

at Vale Health and Wellness Centre (Port Colborne), noon to 3 n m. A free event for families with young children. Come read to a furry friend, have your face painted, make crafts and be entertained by Music with Brian and Friends, Children will receive a new book.

#### **LADIES DAY 2014**

at St. David's Anglican Church. 369 Thorold Rd., Welland, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Entertainment pampering services, Silent Auction, vendors selling ladies goods and services, tea room and door prizes. Tickets are \$10 and include tea/coffee and baked goods, Tickets at door or in advanceby calling the church at 905-734-4627 or Jackie at 905-732-0434. Proceeds to the church's outreach programs.

#### LASAGNA DINNER fundraiser for the Canadian

Cancer Society Relay for Life Event in memory of Opal Balties, Forks Road East United Church, 51786 Forks Rd. E., Wainfleet, Sittings at 5 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.. Adults \$15, children under 10 \$6 Bake table, white elephant table silent auction Reserved seating only. For tickets call Shelley at 905-834-0082.

Continued on Page 22

# **FOR AUCTION!**

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#### **AUCTION DAY:**

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 9TH, 2014

TIME: DOORS OPEN AT 12NOON AUCTION REGINS AT 1PM. FOR OPEN HOUSE VIEWING SCHEDULE & FULL DETAILS PLEASE EMAIL INQUIRE TO propertyauctions27@vahoo.ca

PLEASE NOTE: for your convienience for those who may not be available On auction day we offer absentee, telephone and closed bid, bidding Methods. If you wish to become a registered bidder in the auction of this Realestate you must register in advance and prior to the auction day. Auction registration details and contract will be provided on all open

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# **PELHAM DATEBOOK**

From page 20

#### **FEBRUARY 9**

Our Lady of Hungary Church is hosting this event 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the church on the corner of Hellems Ave. and Park St. Please join us for a social afternoon with family and friends.

#### **FEBRUARY 11**

#### FAMILY TREES

Steve Fulton from the Niagara Chapter of the Ontario Genealogical Society will be at Pelham Public Library to help you with the challenges of tracing your family tree overseas. Time 6:30p.m.; cost \$3. Revister ahead.

VALENTINE CONCERT by A Capella Niagara, 7:30 p.m., St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 29 Bald St., Welland.

being held at Kirk on the Hill 1344 Haist St., Pelham. RSVP Margaret Ouesnelle at 905 788-9641 or e-mail mrs.g@ live ca

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**NIAGARA SECULAR** Humanists meets 7 p.m. at

the Unitarian Congregation Building, 223 Church St., St. Catharines. Mark Grenier will speak on oil - internal combustion engine, the future Special donations to support and how secular humanists do are about the environment NSH members free, visitors \$4.

#### For more information or RSVP call 905-641-2603, e-mail hklaus68@gmail.com or visit nsh.humanists.ca. **FEBRUARY 13**

PASTA NIGHT at Casa Dante, Takeout dinners for \$8, 3p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Sauce, meatballs, minestrone

soup and pasta fagioli are also available for takeout PHILOSOPHER'S CAFÉ at Wainfleet Township Public Library at 6:30 p.m. Drop by for a lively discussion on shortterm, long-term thinking, All

welcome

#### **FERRUARY 14 VALENTINE'S DAY CRAFTS**

at Wainfleet Township Public Library, 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m (public school early release day) For children in kindergarten to Grade 8 Call 905-899-1277 to pre-register as spaces are limited

#### **FEBRUARY 15** VALENTINE WINE AND CHEESE

event sponsored by Knights of Columbus, Fonthill, at St. Alexander church, 50 Pelham Town Sq., 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Cost is \$10 a person, and includes a glass of red or white wine served with cheeses and snacks.

#### **FEBRUARY 16**

SPECIAL PORK LUNCH at the Hungarian Hall. 361 Hellems Ave., Welland at 12:30 n.m. Vegetable soup, sauerkraut with pork, sausage, rice sausage, potatoes, salad, coffee, tea dessert. Adults \$20, students (seven to 14 ) \$ 10. For tickets call: Anna at 905-735-0959. Eva at 905-734-3593 or Tibor at 905-

735-6447.

#### **FERRUARY 18** WELLAND RIVER KEEPERS

Ministry of Natural Resources management biologist Anne Yagi and fish and wildlife technician Cathy Blott will meet with Welland River Keeners members at the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority offices, third floor, 250 Thorold Rd. W., at 7 p.m. They will discuss their Niagara River Fish Community Report focusing on recommendations for habitat work on the Welland River, including discussion of possible impacts to habitat from changes in the height of the river fluctuation. The public is invited

to attend and participate in the discussion CARD MAKING WORKSHOP

Learn different techniques to make six cards suitable for a number of occasions, at Pelham Public Libray, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Fee of \$10 includes most

#### materials. Register ahead. **FERRUARY 20**

at Wainfleet Township Public Library 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Children of all ages can drop-in during this time to build a Lego or Duplo creation. Please do not bring your own Lego.

#### FEBRUARY 21 TRIVIA NIGHT FUNDRAISER

for Pelham Centre School, 6:30 p.m. at Old Pelham Town Hall, 491 Canboro Rd. Tickets are \$10 and include games, pizza and snacks. Also available: cash bar, 50/50 draw, silent auction, door prizes. Put together a team of eight for a fun night out.

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